

CIA Head Refuses To Take Blame for Cuba

By Robert S. Allen and Paul Scott

Washington. Central Intelligence Director Allen W. Dulles is emphatically denying that his much-criticized agency was responsible for the Cuban invasion fiasco. In effect, he is pointing the finger at the White House and the Pentagon.

President Kennedy is inferentially agreeing with Dulles.

In talks with congressional leaders, the president has stressed that a number of high-placed and experienced officials participated in the deliberations that led to the Cuban setback. He has carefully avoided singling out Dulles or anyone else for criticism.

This may explain in part the CIA chief's unexpected appointment as one of the four experts the president has named to make a thorough survey of United States "intelligence and other para-military operations."

Dulles's categorical repudiation of blame directly contradicts State Department views.

It holds intelligence miscalculations were the principal culprit.

Significantly, the State Department is not represented on the group making the intelligence study. The other three members are Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, Admiral Arleigh Burke, chief of Naval Operations and vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, retired Army Chief of Staff.

Secretary Dean Rusk is known to have advised against the ill-fated Cuban invasion. Congressional authorities are being told the State Department attributes that disaster to two main reasons:

(1) Inaccurate information on the extent of hostility inside Cuba to the Red-dominated Castro regime. The invasion was supposed to set off mass uprisings—which did not materialize. (2) Equally erroneous information on Castro's military capability to counter the attempts to establish operational beachheads.

The attackers counted on having three to five days to do that before Castro could effectively strike back. Instead, they were massively blasted virtually as they hit the beaches.

Dulles flatly denies responsibility for this costly tragedy.

CIA information, he firmly insists, was accurate, sound and

Who is right, as between Dulles and the State Department, remains to be shown. Obviously the president thinks well enough of Dulles to name him one of the intelligence scrutinizers.

New Crackdown

The forthcoming ban against Cuban imports to the United States—due next week—is one of two drastic measures in the works against the Castro regime. The other is economic sanctions by the Organization of American States.

They are now being sounded out on that by the State Department, and a majority already have agreed to it. Principal exception so far is Mexico.

Main purpose of the proposed OAS embargo is to shut off the reshipment of United States machinery, parts and other equipment to Cuba by Latin Americans.

Most of Cuban industry, particularly sugar plants, utilities and transport facilities are United States made. They are encountering increasing breakdowns and difficulties due to lack of replacements as the result of the embargo imposed by President Eisenhower last December.

The Castro regime is frantically trying to obtain these supplies through Latin American sources.

Some of these supplies, particularly the latter, have joined the Cuban effort in breaking diplomatic relations with Cuba, already are subject of such shipments. Forthwith approval of economic sanctions is expected on extending the embargo throughout Latin America.

Cuban Flashes

An "internal" brigade of Latin Americans is reported to be in training in Cuba. They are estimated as numbering around 1,500 in a camp near Prague. These "volunteers" in addition to Cuban pilots and technicians undergoing training in Czechoslovakia as MIG-17 jet fighters. Source of this information is from German Intelligence.

Senator Eugene McCarthy (Dem., Minn.) is introducing a measure to set up a joint committee for the express purpose of keeping a check on the Central Intelligence Agency. Part of this legislation are provisions for the creation of a